

Message Text

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43

ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02 OMB-01

SAM-01 DRC-01 OIC-04 /186 W
----- 105387

P R 081712Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3197

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP ETRD GATT EEC IT

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ARMANDO FRACASSI, ITALIAN TRADE OFFICIAL

PASS STR FOR AMBASSADOR MALMGREN

1. ARMANDO FRACASSI, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR TRADE AGREEMENTS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, HAS JOINED THE ITALIAN DELEGATION TO THE ENERGY CONFERENCE. HE HAD EARLIER PLANNED TO SEND TWO SUB-ORDINATES FROM HIS MINISTRY.

2. WHILE AFTER 20 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FRACASSI HARDLY NEEDS INTRODUCTION, HE CONTINUES TO PLAY KEY ROLE IN ITALIAN FOREIGN TRADE POLICY AND REPRESENTS ITALY AT EC ART 113 COMMITTEE AND IN HIGH LEVEL SUB-MINISTERIAL MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS, GENEVA AND OECD PARIS.

3. FRACASSI IS CONSIDERED A CHAMPION OF LIBERAL MULTILATERAL TRADE AND IS OFTEN IN CONFLICT WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHICH IS MUCH MORE PRO-EC. HE HAS PLAYED A HELPFUL ROLE IN THE MTN

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PREPARATIONS BUT ALWAYS IN A LOW KEY. HE IS GIVEN GREAT DISCRETION

BY HIS MINISTER, DISCRETION HE IS CAREFUL NOT TO ABUSE.

4. IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT CRITICAL STATE OF XXIV:6 DISCUSSIONS, STATE AND STR MAY WISH TO MAKE CONTACT WITH HIM DURING ENERGY CONFERENCE. HE TELLS US THAT IN FEB 4 POST-COMMITTEE 113 DINNER HE RAISED ITALIAN FLEXIBILITY ON CITRUS AND TOBACCO CLEARLY. HE ALSO RELATES THAT HE CITED ITALIAN FLEXIBILITY ON KRAFT PAPER AS HE HAD PROMISED. (ROME 1562).VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
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